

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 16, 2021**

Council Members M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President; Michael Blue, Vice-President, Jerry Donald, Jessica Fitzwater, Phil Dacey and Steve McKay were present for the meeting. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Also present were Ragen Cherney, Chief of Staff, County Council; Catherine Keller, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Ambrosio, Recording Secretary; and Nancy Luna, Executive Assistant, County Council.

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. virtually via video conference.

Opening Statement from Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer

Council President M.C. Keegan-Ayer provided an opening statement at the start of the meeting. Included in that statement was a welcoming to the Legislative meeting for Tuesday, March 16, 2021 and information on how to watch and participate in the meeting. President Keegan-Ayer called roll and a quorum was established for the meeting.

The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action on the Agenda

Council Member Michael Blue moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Business Items:

Budget Adjustments

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- J-21-231 – Frederick County Public Libraries
- J-21-232 – Drug Treatment Court, Circuit Court
- J-21-234 – Senior Services Division

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve Budget Adjustments J-21-231, J-21-232 and J-21-234 as presented. Council Member Jerry Donald seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Approval of Minutes from March 2, and March 9, 2021.

Council Member Steve McKay moved to approve the minutes from March 2, and March 9, 2021. Council Member Jessica Fitzwater seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

FY 2022 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions

Kelly Weaver, Director, Budget Office presented information to the Council on the FY 2022 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve the FY 2022 Board of Education Non-Recurring Cost Exclusions as presented. Council Member Michael Blue seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

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Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointments to the Frederick County Substance Abuse Council

Joyce Grossnickle, Administrative Officer, briefed the Council on the Confirmation of the County Executive’s Appointments to the Frederick County Substance Abuse Council.

Substance Abuse Council

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve Jay Hessler and Sarah Trapp-Gregory to the Substance Abuse Council to terms as presented by staff. Council Member Jerry Donald seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

Recommendation for External Auditor

Erin White, Acting Director, Finance Division, presented information to the Council on the Recommendation for External Auditor.

Council Member Jessica Fitzwater moved to approve that the County Council award a one-year contract with five, one-year renewals for external audit services to SB &

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Company who's retention would result in a low cost to Frederick County tax payers, the Accounting Department and the Procurement & Contracting Office be directed to prepare a contract with SB & Company based on the County's present contract services agreement with SB & Company, subject to approval of the Office of the County Attorney and signature by the County Executive as noted in Section 402(f) of the County Charter and that the county will work with FCPS staff in coordination with this contract award. Council Member Michael Blue seconded the motion that passed 6-0-1. Council Member Kai Hagen was absent.

Council Members	Aye	Nay	Absent/ Abstain/ Present
District 1 – Donald	X		
District 2 – McKay	X		
District 4 – Fitzwater	X		
District 5 – Blue	X		
At-large – Dacey	X		
At-large – Hagen			X
Presiding Officer – Keegan-Ayer	X		

First Reading Calendar

Proposed Bill – Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit

Council Member Steve McKay delayed the First Reading on the Proposed Bill – Disabled Veterans Property Tax Credit to the next Legislative Day pending further research.

Public Comment was heard from:

- None

Council Member Comments:

Council Member comments were provided.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council